

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. – 15. (cancelled)

16. (new) A cosmetic formulation which is based on a microemulsion and comprises (a) at least one of an antiperspirant active ingredient and a deodorant active ingredient and (b) at least one  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.

17. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein (b) comprises mandelic acid.

18. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein the microemulsion comprises an O/W microemulsion.

19. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein the formulation comprises a microemulsion gel.

20. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 19, wherein the formulation comprises an oil-in-water microemulsion which comprises an oil phase, a water

phase and less than 20% by weight of one or more emulsifiers, based on a total weight of the microemulsion.

21. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 20, wherein the oil phase is essentially composed of constituents of low volatility.

22. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 20, wherein the one or more emulsifiers comprise one or more O/W emulsifiers selected from polyethoxylated, polypropoxylated and polyethoxylated and polypropoxylated O/W emulsifiers and one or more optional W/O emulsifiers.

23. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 22, wherein the microemulsion is obtainable by bringing a mixture comprising the water phase, the oil phase, the one or more O/W emulsifiers and the one or more optional W/O emulsifiers to a temperature within or above a phase inversion temperature range and subsequently cooling the mixture to room temperature.

24. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 23, wherein droplets of a discontinuous oil phase are joined together by one or more crosslinker substances whose molecules comprise at least one hydrophilic region which has a size suitable for bridging a distance between the droplets and at least one hydrophobic region which is able to enter into hydrophobic interaction with the

droplets.

25. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein the formulation comprises one or more antiperspirant active ingredients.

26. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 25, wherein the one or more antiperspirant active ingredients comprise one or more aluminum salts.

27. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 26, wherein the one or more aluminum salts comprise at least one of aluminum chlorohydrate and activated aluminum chlorohydrate.

28. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 25, wherein the ratio of the one or more antiperspirant active ingredients to the at least one  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid is from 15 : 1 to 1 : 1.

29. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 28, wherein the ratio is from 12 : 1 to 2 : 1.

30. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 29, wherein the ratio is from 10 : 1 to 2.5 : 1.

31. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 25, wherein the formulation comprises from 1% to 35% by weight of the one or more antiperspirant active ingredients, based on a total weight of the formulation.

32. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 31, wherein the formulation comprises up to 25% by weight of the one or more antiperspirant active ingredients.

33. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 32, wherein the formulation comprises up to 20% by weight of the one or more antiperspirant active ingredients.

34. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein the formulation comprises from 0.1% to 10% by weight of (b), based on a total weight of the formulation.

35. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 34, wherein the formulation comprises up to 8% by weight of (b).

36. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein the formulation has a defined yield point.

37. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 36, wherein the formulation has a yield point of from 40 to 120 Pa, determined at 25°C by means of a shear stress time ramp of 40 Pa/min.

38. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein the formulation is suitable for application to human skin.

39. (new) The cosmetic formulation of claim 16, wherein the formulation is transparent.

40. (new) An antiperspirant or deodorant product which comprises the cosmetic formulation of claim 16.

41. (new) The antiperspirant or deodorant product of claim 40 which is transparent.

42. (new) A process for making a transparent antiperspirant or deodorant product, wherein the process comprises combining an O/W microemulsion, at least one  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid, and at least one of an antiperspirant active ingredient and a deodorant active ingredient.

43. (new) The process of claim 42, wherein the at least one  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid comprises mandelic acid.

44. (new) A process for making an O/W microemulsion with a defined yield point, wherein the process comprises combining an O/W microemulsion with at least one  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid and at least one of an antiperspirant active ingredient and a deodorant active ingredient.

45. (new) The process of claim 44, wherein the at least one  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid comprises mandelic acid.